

FY 2017
SMALL NEPA PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests

Please **do not leave any field BLANK**, unless it does not apply.
 Submit form (Word doc) electronically to jjchynoweth@fs.fed.us by **May 5, 2017**.

(NOTE: Italicized comments are for reference only. You may delete them when completing form.)

Project Name	Big Creek Road Hazard Tree Removal
District name (or "Forestwide")	Red River
County(ies) where project located?	Idaho
FS Personnel Name, Phone Number and Email <i>If a partnership, please add name, phone and email, but <u>an FS employee MUST be the project proponent and point of contact.</u></i>	Andrew Lane, 983-4017, Terry Nevius, 839-2245
Legal Location <i>Township(s), Range(s), and Section(s) must be entered.</i>	T27N, R10E, Sec. 9 & 10, BM
District Ranger / Line Officer's Name <i>Person(s) responsible for signing the decision document</i>	Terry Nevius
Is the project associated with meeting a Forest target?	Yes
Watershed and subwatershed the project is located?	Big Creek/Salmon River
Which CE Category does this project fit?* <i>Provide citation: 36CFR 220.6(d)(x) or 36 CFR 220.6(e)(x)</i> <i>See - O:\NFS\NezPerceClearwater\Project\MultiBasin\Planning\Small_NEPA_Cat_Ex\Reference Material\CE Categories</i>	36 CFR 220.6(e)(13) (13) Salvage of dead and/or dying trees not to exceed 250 acres, requiring no more than ½ mile of temporary road construction. The proposed action may include incidental removal of live or dead trees for landings, skid trails, and road clearing.
<p>* Projects that fit in a "36 CFR 220.6 (d)" category do not require a written Project Record or a Decision document. (See - O:\NFS\NezPerceClearwater\Project\MultiBasin\Planning\Small_NEPA_Cat_Ex\Reference Material\CE Categories)</p> <p>Do you want to submit the project for consideration in the Small NEPA process? Y <u>X</u> N <u> </u></p> <p>If no, this form does not need to be submitted to the Small NEPA planner.</p> <p>If yes, see instructions below regarding scoping level.</p>	

*** If the project fits under a “36 CFR 220.6(e)” category (Project Record and Decision required), or is being submitted for small nepa consideration under a “36 CFR 220.6 (d)” category, at what level should the project be scoped?**

Internal X External

List the Management Area(s) in which your project is located.

MA 12, Timber

See O:\NFS\NezPerceClearwater\Project\MultiBasin\Planning\Small_NEPA_Cat_Ex\Reference Material\Management Areas

What are the desired conditions for the Management Area(s)?

Desired conditions described in Chapters 2 & 3 of the Nez Perce and Clearwater Forest Plans. List those that apply.

Mitigate Potential hazards caused by insects and disease (snags) along a public roadway. There are many standing dead trees along the 311 road caused by the McGuire fire of 2012.

Is the project in a Roadless Area? No

Is the project in a congressionally designated area, ex. Wilderness, Wild & Scenic River Corridor, Research Natural Area, Historic Trail, etc.?

No

Does the project involve road construction, reconstruction, temporary roads, or haul routes?

No

Are Municipal Watersheds located in the project area? No

If yes, which one(s)?

Are there Floodplains or Wetlands in the project area?	No
Is the project located in an RHCA?	No
Is the project in the Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area?	No
Describe the existing condition(s) of the project area. Many standing snags are present in the project area as a result of the 2012 McGuire fire. Logging would take place within 150 feet of the roadway. No temp roads would be needed. Landing would be created along the road. Project is approximately 181 acres.	
What is the Purpose and Need for the proposed action? <i>The purpose and need describes - Why the action is being proposed at this location and at this time (need) and the desired objectives/outcomes of the action (purpose).</i> The purpose and need is to remove the hazard trees from the area. There are many standing snags in the area, posing hazards to FS and private travelers of the 311 road. No logging would occur in riparian areas, and only dead standing trees would be cut.	

Describe the Proposed Action:

What is provided below will be used to create the Scoping Letter, by the resource specialists to conduct their effects analyses, and for writing the Decision document so be thorough, detailed, and descriptive. Please include all project-related activities that may have an impact on the environment.

Please describe the PA in full sentences and narrative paragraphs by answering the following:

who will do the work, Loggers will do the work.

where the work will take place, Logging will take place within 150 feet of the 311 road.

how the project site/area will be accessed, The main access and haul route would be the 311 road, 1188 road, and 222 (Red River) Road.

what specific actions will be done (provide details of the actions/activities), Dead standing hazard trees on approximately 181 acres would be felled, skidded, bucked, and hauled. The timber sale would be advertised and sold.

what equipment will be used to accomplish the above actions, Feller bunchers, chainsaws, skidders, loaders, and logging trucks would be used to accomplish the above actions.

what, if any, monitoring will be conducted post-implementation, Landing piles would be constructed and burned by the fire crew post harvest.

when the work will start, Work could start as early as the summer of 2017.

how long it will take to complete the project. It will take 1 year to complete the project.

What ground disturbance will there be? Felling, skidding, loading and log hauling.

Will the project change access restrictions? If so, how? No

Will any permits, etc. be needed before the project can start? If so, what and from who? No

Will coordination with other agencies/publics be required for implementation, etc.?

If so, who? No

List the design criteria/mitigation measures to be included with the proposed action.

Additional design criteria/measures can be listed on the last page of this form. If these are not provided, the form will be returned.

List the Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be included with the proposed action.

Additional BMPs can be listed under "Additional Information" on the last page of this form. If these are not provided, the form will be returned.

Best management practices would be implemented to protect stream courses. 150' buffers would be implemented on all intermittent streams, 300' buffers would be implemented on all fish bearing streams (if present).

Skid trails and landings would be scarified after use.

No temporary roads would be needed, all work would occur within 200 feet of FS road 311.

No logging would occur in riparian areas, wilderness areas, roadless areas, or landslide prone areas.

At a minimum, consider appropriate BMPs for water quality standards and weed management.

Source documents for approved BMPs can be found at – O: NFS\NezPerceClearwater\Project\MultiBasin\ Planning\ Small_NEPA_Cat_Ex\Reference Material\BMPs

Specific individuals/groups/businesses* (with mailing addresses) in the district(s) impacted by the project who should be contacted during the Scoping Process. Do not provide just a name.

N/A

(* NOTE: tribal / state / county governments and agencies will already be contacted)

Please attach to your project submission email, separate from this form, a GIS-generated map or maps of the project area (pdf format only) per the instructions outlined below. Do not give links to maps or datasets. Please make sure that the layers can be turned on/off on your PDF map(s).

At least one map, with (preferably) a “portrait” orientation, showing the project location/activities as points, e.g. culvert, mineral exploration site, etc.; lines, e.g. fence, road, creek, etc.; and/or the project boundary as a polygon, e.g. stand, treatment area, etc. Do not use a point when treating an area, use a polygon.

The map(s) needs to include identifying features, such as towns, roads, trails, rivers/streams, geophysical landmarks, etc. to identify where the project is on the landscape

Please use the Forest Visitor Map as your map’s base layer (see below*). This will standardize the appearance of the maps for scoping. Please do not add contour lines to the map unless needed. Contour lines make the map difficult to read. A topo map may be used as a substitute for the FV Map, as long as there are sufficient identifying features on the base layer that can be used to identify the project’s location. If contour lines are not important to defining the location they should be turned off.

The preferred (not required) scale is 1:24000. If the project area can’t be adequately shown at 1:24K, use a larger scale (> 1:24K) showing the entire project area and if needed, provide additional maps showing details of the project activities. **Please make as few maps as possible.** Conversely, if the 1:24K scale is too large (i.e. the project / action area is a tiny point or a thin line hard to find on a large landscape), use a smaller scale (< 1:24K) to provide more detail while ensuring that the project area’s/activities’ location is identifiable.

All maps should include, at a minimum, a **Title** (i.e. include only the district and the project name); a **Legend** with the project feature(s) clearly labeled, e.g. culvert replacement, fence line, x treatment area, etc.; a **Scale** in miles (not km) using full miles, such as 0_0.25_0.5_1.0 miles (ending with 0.5 miles okay); and a **North arrow**. Use a black outlined box with a white background (not gray) to display them.

The main point is, the map(s) are used mostly for scoping purposes (see Shapefiles below), to show the public, as clearly and efficiently as possible, what activity or activities are being proposed and where the activity or activities are located on the Forest.

** The Small NEPA geodatabase contains feature classes, including the Forest Visitor Map, that can be used for map creation. The geodatabase is found at:*

T:\FS\NFS\NezPerceClearwater\Project\MultiBasin\Planning\Small_NEPA_Cat_Ex\GIS\SmallNEPA.gdb

If you need help with accessing and/or working with the geodatabase in GIS, contact your Zone GIS Specialist (first) or you can contact Jim Lutes at jamesrlutes@fs.fed.us; 963-4202.

SHAPEFILES

The resource specialists want the shapefile(s) of the project’s proposed activity(ies) before they will begin their analyses. The shapefile(s) need to be labeled with a Project Name and the Feature. For example, Peasley culvert replace, Brushy Fork road decom, PC thinning _NFRD, etc. The shapefile(s) must follow these instructions* or they will not be accepted and the project will delayed until they are met.

*The Project Proponent needs to send the shapefile including the following extensions – .dbf, .prj, .sbn, .shp, .shx, and .xml – to jjchynoweth@fs.fed.us prior to or when the District Ranger submits this form.

Note: Providing where the shapefile(s) can be found (O drive/T drive) does not meet this obligation. Providing the shapefile(s) **does not substitute** for providing the map(s).

Small NEPA IDT/resource specialists are listed below. Contact them if you have any questions regarding their resource and your project.

Botany – Mike Hays, mhays01@fs.fed.us; 983-4028

Cultural – Steve Lucas, slucas@fs.fed.us; 983-4040

Fisheries – Christine Stewart, christinestewart@fs.fed.us; 963-4211

Fisheries (detail) – Tim Price, tprice@fs.fed.us; 935-2513 (main office number)

Hydrology – Cynthia Valle, cvalle@fs.fed.us; 963-4203

Minerals – Marty Jones, martinjones@fs.fed.us; 983-5158

Recreation – Carol Hennessey, cahennessey@fs.fed.us; 935-4270

Soils – Robert Bergstrom, robertbergstrom@fs.fed.us; 963-4287

Wildlife – Jim Lutes, jamesrlutes@fs.fed.us; 963-4202

Project in Roadless Area

<p>What is the Roadless Area name?</p> <p><i>O:\NFS\NezPerceClearwater\Project\MultiBasin\Planning\Small_NEPA_Cat_Ex\Reference Material\Roadless Rule Info</i></p>	<p>Idaho Roadless Area (IRA) Name:</p> <p>Forest Plan IRA Name (if different):</p>
<p>Identify the Idaho Roadless Management classification because permitted activities vary by classification.</p> <p><i>Classifications include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Wild Land Recreation</i> • <i>Special Areas of Historic or Tribal Significance</i> • <i>Primitive</i> • <i>Backcountry Restoration</i> • <i>General Forest, Rangeland and Grassland</i> 	<p>Classification:</p>
<p>Does the project involve constructing or reconstructing roads? No</p> <p><i>* If yes, see http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title36-vol2 then navigate to Subpart C 294.23</i></p>	
<p>Does the project involve cutting trees? Yes* but not in a roadless area</p> <p><i>* If yes, see http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title36-vol2 then navigate to Subpart C 294.24</i></p>	
<p>Does the project involve removing minerals, including common variety minerals? No</p> <p><i>* If yes, see http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title36-vol2 then navigate to Subpart C 294.25</i></p>	

Project Involving Road Construction, Reconstruction, Temporary Roads, and/or Haul Routes

Note: Specialists will address items 9-11 (*in italics*) below.

ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS	YES / NO	MITIGATION MEASURE/COMMENTS
1. Will road construction or reconstruction be required? Type of road and length.	No	
2. Will temporary roads be needed?	No	
3. Will road maintenance be needed? Who will perform?	No	We will collect road mtce. Deposits from purchasers
4. Will there be a change to the current road restrictions?	No	
5. Are haul roads part of an established snowmobile network?	yes	We can limit hauling outside of the normal operating period
6. Are there public safety concerns for roads, trails, or other road improvements?	Yes	Roads will be signed "Heavy Truck Traffic" during logging operations
7. Are there other improvements which will require protection?	no	
8. Does the area currently meet Forest Plan standards for soils?		
9. <i>Will the project impact elk security?</i>		
10. <i>Will the project or log haul impact winter range?</i>		
11. <i>Will the project impact critical elk summer range?</i>		

JC : 8/19/2016

Additional Information: